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SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, in the matter of silt clearance in village tanks, is it the policy of the Government to take action only after the receipt of complaints or reports from the villagers and, that too, after the lapse of two decades or is it the policy of the Government to keep a constant watch over the mismanagement and take proper action wherever necessary?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, the question is on the general policy. A separate question may be put."

SRI M. R. RAMACHANDRAN :—" Apart from the matter of this silt clearance, may I know whether the Government will take this matter up in general so far as the Chingleput district is concerned?"

MR. SPEAKER :—" It is also a question of policy. Just now the Hon. Minister said he wanted notice. But, if he is prepared to answer, I have no objection."

SRI M. R. RAMACHANDRAN :—" Yes, Sir. What I wanted to know is whether this matter will be considered generally with regard to the clearance of the tanks in the Chingleput district as a matter of policy."

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, a separate question may be put and I shall answer."

Quota fixed for the appointment of I.A.S. and I.C.S. Officers as Collectors.

* 264 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quota fixed for Indian Administrative Service and Indian Civil Service men in the Collectors' Grade in the Madras State Service;

(*b*) how much of the quota in (*a*) has been filled up;

(*c*) the quota fixed for the non-I.A.S. and Provincial Service men in the Collectors' Grade in the Madras State Service; and

(*d*) how much of the quota in (*c*) has been filled up?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" (*a*) to (*c*) No separate quota is fixed in respect of officers of the I.C.S. and I.A.S. for appointment to the posts in the Collector's grade in the Indian Civil Administrative Cadre of this State. Hence the question of filling up the quota does not arise.

Before partition, out of a total of 105 senior duty posts (comprising several individual and groups of posts including posts in Collector's grade) borne on the combined Indian Civil Administrative Cadre of this State, 26 posts (representing 25 per cent of 105) were reserved to be filled by the

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Promotion of State Civil Service Officers. Of this number 15 per cent (i.e., 4 posts) could be filled by the promotion of officers of outstanding ability and merit not belonging to the State Civil Service. The above figures were fixed with reference to the cadre strength of the State as in force during pre-partition days. The number of posts that can be filled by the State Civil Service officers and others in the new cadre has not yet been determined as the cadre strength of the State after partition has not yet been finalised.

" (*d*) The entire quota of promotion posts (26) in the old combined cadre of the State allotted to officers of the State Civil Service and those not belonging to that Service has already been filled up."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Did the Government of India some years back call for a list of those officers eligible to be promoted from the State Civil Service to the Indian Administrative Service Cadre and, if so, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether that practice is being followed now? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I want notice."

SRI V. S. SIVAPRAKASAM :—" May I know the special qualifications required for an officer of the Madras Civil Service (Executive Branch) to be promoted as an I.A.S officer? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Merit is required, Sir."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Are all persons in the I.A.S. chosen by competitive examination or some of them lifted from the other ranks and, if the latter be the case, is it not better that all are chosen by competitive examination in order to maintain efficiency and standard in the service? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have stated already in my answer that twenty-five per cent of the posts are reserved for promotion from the other ranks and that is necessary in order to give sufficient encouragement to persons who are coming up from those ranks. The rest, namely, seventy-five per cent, is filled by direct recruits who have passed the open competitive examinations."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" May I know whether any stations are reserved for the I.A.S. and I.C.S. men to be appointed as Sub-Collectors and whether any districts are reserved for the I.A.S and the I.C.S. men to be appointed as Collectors? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I know, Sir, it was reserved. But, we are not observing it now."

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR :—" Will the Government consider the desirability of increasing the quota for promotion from the ranks of the State Civil Service Officers inasmuch as the Hon. Minister has stated that the quota is only 25 per cent? "

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, in the interests of efficiency, we have fixed up a ratio in consultation with the Government of India and it applies to all the States. It is after due consideration this proportion has been fixed. I do not think there is any case for revision at present."

SRI V. S. SIVAPRAKASAM :—" May I know whether ' merit ' is the only consideration or the pay and seniority of the officers are also considered for promotion to the Indian Administrative Service Cadre? "

10-40 a.m. THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" When persons have equal merit, then seniority is taken into consideration."

SRI B. K. NALLASWAMI :—" May I know whether any posts are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Hill Tribes? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I don't think any posts are reserved in this category for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes."

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR :—" Is it a fact that the Government of India have fixed an increased quota for these subordinate officers? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I don't think so, because the information and the papers that I have show that only 25 per cent has been reserved."

Excess collection of land revenue in certain villages in Pattukkottai taluk.

* 265 *Q.*—SRI C. KANDASAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a petition from the villagers of Sangamangalam and Ranganayakipuram (Peravurani Range Inam Nos. 287 and 286 respectively in Pattukkottai taluk of Tanjore district) regarding excessive collection of kist from them; and

(*b*) if so, what action was taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Yes. A report was called for from the Collector of Tanjore and it was observed that the allegations made in the petition were not true, and that in no case were rates of assessment in excess of those permissible under the rules and orders charged. The Collector of Tanjore has also issued instructions to the Manager of Estates, Pattukkottai to see that no excessive or illegal collections of land revenue are made by the village officers."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" பழைய ரூல்களின் பிரகாரம் வரி வசூலிக்கப்படுவது சட்டத்தின் வரம்புக்கு முரணானது என்று சமீபத்தில் ஹைகோர்ட்டு தீர்ப்புகூறி இருக்கிறது. அந்தத்தீர்ப்பின் பிரகாரம் சர்க்கார் ஏதாவது நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கத் தயாராய் இருக்கிறதா ? "